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SECRET

21 May 1957

OGC HAS REVIEWED.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conference with Chief, Lands Division, Department of Justice

J. Luttrell

1. On 18 May 1951 Mr. Houston and the undersigned conferred at the Department of Justice with Mr. A. Devitt Vanech, Chief of the Lands Division, and Mr. Luttrell, who is in charge of condemnation matters. The purpose of the conference was to discuss the requirement in 40 USC § 255 for the approval of validity of title by the Attorney General prior to any purchase of realty by the United States Government, and other related matters.

25X1A. It was agreed by all present that where CIA acquires title [redacted] it is not desirable or necessary to obtain approval of title by the Attorney General. However, in such cases title insurance should be obtained from a reputable title company.

25X1A 3. It was suggested by Mr. Luttrell that in some cases the best method of acquisition may be by condemnation. In such cases, CIA should notify Mr. Luttrell of the property desired to be acquired and not approach the owner. The Department of Justice can carry out the condemnation without revealing CIA interest and can have the court records impounded if necessary from a security standpoint. However, 25X1A

[redacted] 25X1A

[redacted]

5. Mr. Vanech and Mr. Luttrell emphasized that they are anxious to cooperate in every way possible with CIA and that their facilities for maintaining security are good.

25X1A

[redacted]

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